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ACTION MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Action Memorandum No. A-228Date 23 April 1963

TO : Deputy Director/Research

SUBJECT : Electronic Countermeasures on U-2s

REFERENCE:

1. At a meeting to discuss the contingency planning in the event of a U-2 shoot-down over Cuba held on 17 April, the question arose concerning the effectiveness of the ECMs and how quickly the Soviets would discover their use and develop countermeasures.

2. The DCI requests that DD/R develop immediately a study reflecting the full potential of our current ECM system, an appraisal of the effectiveness of the ECMs, an estimate as to how long and how safely we could operate ECM-equipped U-2s over Cuba against operational SAM sites.

3. At the same meeting the question of evidence as to exact cause of the loss of a U-2 was discussed. The DCI wishes NRO to examine and reconfirm that all steps are being taken by the military, NSA and CIA to be sure we can produce incontrovertible and absolute evidence as to the exact cause of the loss of a U-2. The DCI states, "We should not be in the dark as to whether it was shot down by a missile, a MIG-21, or whether it came down because of mechanical difficulties."

(signed) Lyman B. Kirkpatrick

Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Executive Director

SUSPENSE DATE: 24 April 1963

LBK:drm

Distribution: Orig. - Addressee; 1-DCI; 1-DDCI; 1-ER; 1-ExDir

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